FISHERIES—REPORT OF Mr. BENI PRASAD

25. മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കെ. വർഗ്ഗീസ്: താഴെ പറയുന്ന ചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്ക ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഗവ മെണ്ട സദയം മറുപടി നൽകുമോ.—

(എ) ഇന്ത്യാഗവമെണ്ടിന്റെ ഫിഷറീസ് ഡെവലപ്പുമെണ്ട് അഡൈസർ മിസ്റ്റർ ബെനി പ്രസാദ് ഇവിടത്തെ ഫിഷറീസ് വകുപ്പ വികസനത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു ചെയ്തിരിക്ക ന്ന റിപ്പോർട്ടിൽ ടി വകുപ്പിലെ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാക്ക് ആവശ്യമായ യോഗ്യതകളെക്കുറിച്ചു വല്ലതും പ്രസ്താവിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ;

(ബി) ഉണ്ടെങ്കിൽ എന്തു?

മിസ്റ്റർ പറമ്പി ലോനപ്പൻ:

(എ) ഇല്ല.

(ബി) മേൽ (എ) ചോദ്യത്തിന്റെ മറുപടികൊണ്ട് ഈ ചോദ്യത്തിന്റെ മറുപടി ക്ക് ആവശ്യമില്ല.

4. Condolence motion on the demise of Rao Bahadur P. I. Varghese

Rao Bahadur T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Nominated)*: Sir, I beg to move the following motion for the acceptance of the House. "This House places on record its deep sense of sorrow in the sad demise of Rao Bahadur P. I. Varghese who was for some time nominated member of this Council".

Sir, the late Rao Bahadhur P. I. Varghese was one of those who had a distinguished record of service in the State. He was appointed directly from the Bar as a Judge of the Chief Court in January 1913 and he held that position with ability and dignity for a long period of about 17 years of which for nearly 6 years prior to his retirement he was the Chief Judge of that Court. Sir, the administration of Justice in our State may be said to be comparatively free from the proverbial reproach of the laws' delays. If this is so, I think it was in a large measure due to the untiring efforts of Rao Bahadhur P. I. Varghese and the watchful control which he exercised during his stewardship of the department. The reference made in the High Court recently would show the esteem in which he was held by the Bench and the Bar in Cochin.

Shortly after his retirement he was nominated as a Member of the Third Legislative Council and though he remained there only for a short time he did useful work in connection with the Tenancy Bill, a highly controversial measure then before the Council, which was subsequently passed into law with some modifications and placed on the statute Book as Act XV of 1113. Considerations of health prevented him from continuing his participation in the public life of Cochin. He was spending most of his retired life in his native place at Thiruvalla where he passed away at the age of seventy-one. He was a man of real culture, with a liberal out-look and imbued with great ideals. Though he always liked to keep himself in an atmosphere of relative detachment, he was extremely affable in private life and punctilious in his manners and behaviour. It is only fitting that we should pay our tributes to the memory of one who had rendered long and loyal service to the State.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Ernakulam)*: Sir, I know the late Mr. P. I. Varghese only from the Cochin Law Reports where his judgments are read with very great interest by every student of law, I suppose here and elsewhere. I associate myself with all that has been said by the mover of this motion Rao Bahadur Narayana Ayyar.

Mrs. T. Francis *(Womens-Ernakulam)*: Sir, on behalf of the ladies of my constituency I fully associate with all the high tributes paid by the mover of this condolence motion on the demise of Rao Bahadur P. I. Varghese. Mr. Varghese was the President of Cochin Christian Bill Committee and it was through his endeavours that the Christian women of Cochin State now enjoy better right on the paternal property than the women of Travancore, He tried very hard to give daughters equal rights. Even though he did not succeed that much, at least one-third share of that of a son was granted to the women. May his soul rest in peace!

Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur)*: Sir, I also associate myself with all that has been said here by the mover of the motion and the other speakers that followed him.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan, *(Vadakkancheri)*: Sir, I also wish to associate myself with all that has been stated in this House regarding he late Mr. P. I. Varghese. Sir, it may be truly said that the late Rao Bahadur was an erudite Judge. A reading of the judgments referred to by my Hon'ble friend Mr. Govinda Menon will show that he was rather terse in his discussions which often times is not seem in the judgments of others. He was really an ornament to the High Court of Cochin. This greatest contribution, after retirement from

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that high place is, his work in connection with the Tenancy Bill. The one thing that was the bone of contention and a matter of heart burning to the tenants was the question of renewal fee with reference to certain classes of Kanams and the amendments effected on the recommendations of the Select Committee of which he was the distinguished chairman gave that relief that is there in the existing tenancy Act. But unfortunately by a decision of the High Court which interpreted that clause in a particular way and for reason stated therein the benefit that was granted through him could not be enjoyed by the tenants. During his life time and now after his death, the changes that are sought to be introduced upon that identical question which he tackled beautifully and to the advantage of the tenants and never to the detriment of the Jenmies, he must perhaps be weeping in his grave over the amendments now sought to be moved by Government. That is the contribution Sir, to Cochin made by the deceased. I therefore associate myself with all the sentiments expressed here and pray that his soul may remain undisturbed by what is now going on with the mutilation of the Tenancy Act.

Mr. M. O. Thomakutty *(Commerce and Industry)*: Sir, I full associate with all the sentiments expressed by the mover of this condolence motion. He was a reputed judge for his sound and impartial judgments. I am wery sorry that I have not come into contact with him but I have heard from persons who had acquaintance with him about his character and honest behaviour. I have also heard that he has done well in the service of the State and as a member of this House itself. He has done valuable service and it is about the loss of such a man that we mourn today. May his soul rest in peace.

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Public Health)*: Sir, as leader of the nationalist party, I on behalf of my party and myself endorse all that has been said about the late Mr. P. I. Varghese. I do not know him personally but I have heard about him and I know that he was a very clever student. He was a learned lawyer, an upright and erudite Judge and a person who knows how to clearly and masterly express himself in writing when he wants to write any judgment. When I was a judge of the Chief Court of Cochin I had considerable assistance from his learned judgments in discharging my work as a Judge. Even after his retirement he was taking a keen interest in the legal profession. His death has caused a great loss to the country. I therefore agree and heartily endorse all that has been said on the floor of this House by the previous speakers and only wish that this may be communicated to the members of his bereaved family.

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government)*: With your permission, Sir, on behalf of my colleagues and myself I wish to associate myself with all the noble sentiments that were expressed this morning. Mr. Varghese was a member of this House only for about a short period; but he came to the House with all the knowledge and the experience and all the training that he had both at the Bar and the Bench. He made full use of them and in the short period he was here, he was of immense help in shaping and piloting through this House a great controversial measure, *viz.*, the Cochin Tenancy Bill. In that short period of a few months, he did very valuable service in that respect. We all wish that his soul may rest in peace!

Mr. President: Before I put this motion to the House I wish to associate myself with all that has been said on the motion and I now ask Hon'ble Members to pass this motion all standing.

Motion unanimously passed all standing

5. General Discussion on the Budget

***Mr. P. Govinda Menon** *(Ernakulam)*: Mr. President, Sir, at this stage of the general discussion of the budget, it is usual in this House to refer to the financial aspect of the budget as also to refer to those things about which it may not be possible to refer to when the several grants are put before this House. With your leave, Sir, I wish to adopt the latter course on this occasion.

We are living at a time when events are moving with very great rapidity in India and things are taking shape with such speed that we often do not get time to realise their true form. If Cochin must find its proper place as an intergal part of a free India, it is necessary that we react correctly and in proper time to the great events happening in India to-day.

* Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

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